

REMARKS

This response is directed to the office action mailed February 13, 2004. Presently claims 1-23 are pending.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 6-10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Mitchell (U.S. Patent No. 6,529,706). In response thereto, an affidavit under 37 C.F.R. §1.131, is being submitted herewith. It is believed that the rejection under §102(e) in view of Mitchell has been rendered moot.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5 and 13-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitchell in view of Frisco et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,208,307). In view of the affidavit submitted herewith, it is believed that this rejection has also been rendered moot.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

A supplemental information disclosure statement is also being submitted concurrently herewith together with a check in the amount of \$180 to cover the cost of submitting the statement at this time. Consideration and entry of the attached PTO Form 1449 is also respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is

believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 13, 2004

By: 
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